

# **Washington Update**

April 22, 2005

Welcome to my Washington Update, an e-mail newsletter for the constituents of California's 29th Congressional District. Through these quick-read updates, I hope to keep you informed of progress being made in Washington, D.C. and at home on public policy issues of interest to our community.

### **Schiff Opposed Energy Bill**

On Thursday the House passed the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Congressman Schiff opposed the legislation because it provides \$8 billion in unpaid for subsidies that mostly benefit the oil, gas, coal and nuclear industries while directing only a tiny percentage of resources to wind, solar and other critical renewable energy projects.

"There are compelling national security reasons to confront the scarcity and costs of oil, the challenge of global warming and environmental degradation," said Schiff. "Imagine the increased strength, independence and security that would come to an America that could tell the oil producing nations — 'we don't want your oil, we can do better.'"

#### **Ukrainian President Addresses Congress**

Fresh from the "Orange Revolution" that swept him into office, newly elected President Viktor Yushchenko spoke to a joint session of Congress on April 6<sup>th</sup>. During the speech he appealed to Congress to lift cold war-era trade barriers between the United States and the Ukraine and introduced measures to improve relations between the two countries.

Moments after the historic speech, Yushchenko met with Congressman Schiff. To see a photo of the meeting please <u>click here</u>. Congressman Schiff traveled to Ukraine in December to meet with leaders just prior to their unprecedented elections.

#### **Last Chance to Report Storm Damage**

On April 15, 2005 President Bush declared a major disaster exists in the State of California and authorized Federal aid to help State and local recovery efforts in the areas struck by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mud and debris flow during the February rain storms.

Unfortunately, the President's declaration did not authorize funds for Individual Assistance. The State of California is asking the public to report any damages that were sustained that have not been previously reported during the February rain storms to their local Office of Emergency Services by Friday, April 29, 2005. Please call the following numbers if you have damage to report: Alhambra 626-570-5199, Altadena 818-238-3350, Burbank 818-238-3350, City of Los Angeles/ Griffith Park 213/485-2121 or 311, Glendale 818-548-4084, Monterey Park 626-307-1270, Pasadena 626-744-7276, San Gabriel (626) 308-2885, South Pasadena 626-403-7300, Temple City 626-285-2171.

## Schiff to Host Congressional Arts Competition on Monday

Congressman Adam Schiff will host the annual Congressional Arts Competition featuring outstanding high school student artwork from the district on Monday, April 25. The Competition, Forum and Exhibit will open to the public for viewing at 5 p.m. at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., in San Marino. The program will start at 7:00 p.m. and will include the announcement of the winners, student performances and a legislative update from Congressman Schiff. The winning entry will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The second place entry will hang in our Washington, D.C. office, and the third place entry will be on display in our Pasadena District Office. Light refreshments will be served and parking and admission are free. Please contact (626) 304-2727 to R.S.V.P or for more information.

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